

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A cathode assembly comprising:
 - a base;
 - a filament mounted to the base for delivering a stream 5 of electrons;
 - a deflector carried by the base for deflecting the electrons or focusing the electrons into a beam;
 - an insulator for electrically insulating the deflector from the base, the insulator defining a bore;
 - 10 a metal guide tube mounted in the insulator bore; and
 - a rod connected with the deflector adjacent a first end of the rod, the rod being received ~~within the insulator bore~~ in and aligned by an inner bore of the guide tube.
2. (Original) The cathode assembly of claim 1, further including:
 - a second deflector supported by the base;
 - 5 a second insulator for electrically insulating the second deflector from the base, the second insulator defining a second bore; and
 - a second rod, connected with the deflector adjacent a first end of the second rod, the second rod being received within the second insulator bore.

3. (Original) The cathode assembly of claim 1, further including:

another insulator for electrically insulating the deflector from the base, the other insulator defining 5 another bore; and

another rod, connected with the deflector adjacent a first end of the rod, the other rod being received within the other insulator bore.

4. (Currently Amended) The cathode assembly of claim [[1]] 6, further including a tube, mounted in the bore, which receives the rod.

5. (Original) The cathode assembly of claim 1, wherein the base defines a passageway, a first end of the insulator being received in the passageway.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ cathode assembly of claim 5, wherein comprising:

a base which defines a passageway, the passageway includes including a first portion and a second portion, the 5 second portion having a larger internal diameter than the first portion such that a shoulder is defined between the first and second portions;

a filament supported by the base for delivering electrons;

10 a deflector supported by the base for deflecting the electrons or focusing the electrons into a beam;

an insulator for electrically insulating the deflector from the base, the insulator defining a bore, a first end of

15 the insulator being received in the passageway of the base,
the insulator having a second portion of larger diameter
than the first portion of the passageway which is received
in the second portion[[s]] of the passageway; and
a rod connected with the deflector adjacent a first end
of the rod, the rod being received within the insulator
20 bore.

7. (Original) The cathode assembly of claim 1,
wherein the deflector defines a socket which receives a
second end of the insulator.

8. (Original) The cathode assembly of claim 7,
wherein the deflector defines a hole which extends into the
deflector from the socket, the hole receiving the first end
of the rod.

9. (Original) The cathode assembly of claim 8,
wherein the deflector socket has a larger diameter than a
diameter of the insulator, such that a gap is defined
between the socket and a side wall of the deflector.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ cathode assembly of
claim 1, wherein comprising:

5 a base;
a filament mounted to the base for delivering a stream
of electrons;
a deflector for deflecting the electrons or focusing
the electrons into a beam, the deflector defines defining a
well which receives the;

10 an insulator for electrically insulating the deflector
 from the base, the insulator defining a bore; and
 a rod received with the well of the deflector adjacent
 a first end of the rod such that the insulator is connected
 with the deflector by the rod and does not itself contact
 the deflector, the rod being received within the insulator
15 bore.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ cathode assembly of
claim 1, wherein comprising:

a metal base;
 a filament supported by the base for delivering
5 electrons;
 a deflector carried by the base for deflecting the
 electrons or focusing the electrons into a beam;
 an insulator for electrically insulating the deflector
 from the base, the insulator defining a bore, and the
10 insulator ~~has~~ having a metallized coating on a first portion
 thereof, the insulator being brazed or welded to the base at
 the metallized coating; and
 a rod connected with the deflector adjacent a first end
 of the rod, the rod being received within the insulator
15 bore.

12. (Original) The cathode assembly of claim 1,
wherein the rod electrically connects the deflector with a
source of electrical potential for biasing the deflector.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ cathode assembly of
claim 1, wherein comprising:

a base;

a filament supported by the base which emits electrons
5 and vaporized filament material;

a deflector supported by the base for deflecting the
electrons or focusing the electrons into a beam, the
deflector is being configured and positioned relative to the
filament by a rod and an insulator to eliminate a direct
10 line of sight for the flow of vaporized filament material
between the filament and the insulator, the insulator
electrically insulating the deflector from the base.

14. (Original) The cathode assembly of claim 6,
wherein the second portion of the passageway is adjacent an
upper end of the base.

15. (Original) The cathode assembly of claim 2,
wherein the first ends of the first and second rods are
connected by a connecting member and wherein the connecting
member is connected with the deflector.

16. (Currently Amended) An x-ray tube comprising:
an envelope which encloses an evacuated chamber;
a cathode assembly disposed within the chamber for
providing a source of electrons, the cathode assembly
5 including:

a base supported in the envelope,
a filament mounted to the base for providing
the electrons,

10 a deflector carried by the base for
 deflecting the electrons or focusing the electrons
 into a beam,

 an insulator for electrically insulating the
 deflector from the base, the insulator defining an
 internal bore, and

15 a rod connected with the deflector adjacent
 a first end of the rod, ~~the rod being received~~
~~within the insulator bore and~~

20 an alignment tube which defines a bore
mounted in the insulator bore, the tube receiving
and aligning the rod; and

 an anode disposed within the chamber positioned to be
 struck by the electrons and generate x-rays.

17. (Currently Amended) A method of assembling a
cathode assembly comprising:

- a) attaching at least one rod to at least one deflector;
- 5 b) attaching a metal tube in an insulator to define a bore for receiving the rod;
- c) attaching the insulator to a base;
- d) attaching a filament assembly to the base;
- e) sliding the rod into the tube to mount position
10 the deflector to adjustably select a distance from
to the base; and
- f) attaching the rod to the tube mounting the
deflector the selected distance from the base.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the step of mounting the rod to the deflector includes positioning the first end of the rod in a hole within the deflector and brazing the rod to the deflector.

19. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ method of claim 17, wherein the step of assembling a cathode assembly comprising:

a) attaching at least one rod to at least one deflector;

b) attaching the ~~an~~ insulator tube to the ~~a~~ base includes including:

10 metalizing one end of an outer surface of the insulator tube;

positioning the metalized end of the insulator in a bore in the base; and

brazing the metalized surface of the insulator to the base;

c) sliding the rod into a bore in the insulator tube
15 to mount the deflector to the base while insulating the rod
from the base; and

d) attaching the rod to the insulator tube.

20. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the step of attaching the tube in the insulator includes:

inserting the tube in a bore in the insulator;
welding the tube to the insulator.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the step of attaching the rod to the tube includes:

crimping the rod and the tube together.

22. (Original) The method of claim 17, further including:

as the rod is slid into the tube, setting and aligning the deflector;

5 performing the step of attaching the rod to the tube after the deflector has been set in a preselected position with a preselected alignment.

23. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ method of ~~claim 17,~~
~~wherein: the step of assembling a cathode assembly~~
~~comprising:~~

- a) attaching at least one rod to at least one deflector;
- 5 b) attaching a metal tube in an insulator to define a bore for receiving the rod;
- c) attaching the insulator to the base includes
10 inserting the insulator into a bore of a base from a first surface of the base;
- d) the step of attaching the filament assembly to the base includes inserting a filament insulator into a second bore of the base from the first surface of the base; and
- e) brazing the insulator and filament insulator to the
15 base in a single brazing step;
- f) sliding the rod into the tube to mount the deflector to the base; and
- g) attaching the rod to the tube.